

FEARS STRIKE IN COAL FIELDS IS INEVITABLE

Secretary Hoover Says All Conciliation Has Failed.

OPERATORS WANT FINAL SHOWDOWN

Miners Reject Arbitration; Agreement Ends March 31.

Soft-coal miners and mine union leaders believe they have caused to call a gigantic strike on April 1 next, unless granted a new and satisfactory wage agreement by the operators. But they hope the strike may be averted.

Administration officials hope the strike may be averted, but see no way now of averting it.

Coal operators would like to see the strike go into effect for a real "show-down."

These are the outstanding phases of a serious economic situation literally saturated with politics both within the American Federation of Labor and in the field of national parties; pregnant with suffering and business losses and charged with threats and counter-threats involving the "open-shop" campaign, which has stirred labor.

Fears Strike Inevitable.

That a strike would seem inevitable in the bituminous fields at the expiration of the miners' present national agreement March 31 is the belief of Secretary Hoover. If the bituminous workers walk out, say labor leaders, the anthracite miners will follow them, throwing 500,000 men into the strike.

"There is little possibility," Secretary Hoover said, "that any machinery might be set up to avoid the strike. The government has taken no further steps to avoid the strike. It is up to the operators to forego or adjust the difficulty, it seems that the stage is set for a strike."

The government's position has been long known to be that sooner or later there would have to be a show-down in the mine fields. It is attitude is that if a strike must be, it must be, and the sooner the issue is disposed of the better.

Only 188 Working Days.

From administration officials' standpoint the mining situation is not so much a question of wages and working conditions as it is a question of an economic fact. That fact is:

So the bituminous coal industry can offer employment for only 188 days in a year. It is, therefore, from 30 to 40 per cent overdeveloped when viewed from the standards of advanced countries. The industry is highly speculative for the operators.

Proceeding on this basis the Department of Commerce has had a coal survey under way for some time. But its inquiry is directed, not at wages or working conditions, but to discover how the economic forces may be diverted in the direction of remedying the bituminous coal industry.

Miners Blame Operators.

On the other hand, the miners' officials hold that some operators and other undefinable forces are slackening the industry to aid the alleged fight of finance for the open shop.

James Lord, chief of the mining divisions of the American Federation of Labor, puts it thus:

"What good would government intervention do if the fight against organized labor is ignored?"

"The miner's problem is not the only one. It is merely one typical product of the frenzy against the rising tide of organized labor."

All Offers Fail.

Secretary Hoover, during the unemployment conference here last fall, attempted to effect an agreement between the coal operators and mine union officials to arbitrate the wage question. He was told by the miners' leaders that this could not be done.

President Lewis, of the United Mine Workers, sought to bring a conference, but called it off when some of the operators declined to participate.

The situation stands just where it was. The government sees nothing further to do. Union leaders see no possible hope in government intervention because they hold that refusal of the operators to meet them means nothing but a fight against organized labor.

Meantime, the public may wonder what is to be done. It would not be surprising if President Harding ordered the Department of Labor to make a sweeping investigation of the whole mining industry situation coupled with that now being made by the Department of Commerce.

POPE IS VERY ILL; TEMPERATURE HIGH

ROME, Jan. 19.—The Pope's temperature has risen to 39.3 centigrade (nearly 104 Fahrenheit), and is believed to indicate the presence of slight pulmonary complications, the Tribune stated this evening.

The Pope's physicians held a consultation later in the evening.

At 6 o'clock, the Observator announced, the condition of the pontiff had undergone no marked change.

Germans Accept Genoa Bid.

BERLIN, Jan. 19.—The German government has accepted the invitation to participate in the economic and financial conference at Genoa in March, it was announced today.

Ulster Grows Friendlier Toward Irish Free State

Sir James Craig Would Like to Arrange Union With South, But Cannot at Present, Is Belief.

BELFAST, Jan. 19.—"We are interested and not unfriendly spectators," was the answer today of a leading Ulster politician to questions about the attitude of Ulster toward the new Irish free state.

"We sincerely wish success to the new government and we hope they will succeed in re-establishing law and order throughout Ireland. There is no question of our coming in now, but if they prove successful who knows what may happen in a year or two?"

This accurately sums up the attitude of Belfast today, but tomorrow it may even be more friendly toward the south. At the present moment it is believed that Sir

James Craig, as well as some of his advisors, would like to arrange a union with the south, but it is felt that it would be impossible for him to deliver the goods in the present state of feeling in the six counties.

Craig goes to London. His attitude since the establishment of the new southern government has been scrupulously correct. He has refrained from any public comment and in private he has expressed a hearty wish for the success of the new regime and an understanding of the problems to be faced.

Craig is going to London tomorrow to confer with Prime Minister Lloyd George and it is said that he may meet Messrs. Duggan and O'Higgins, the members of the provisional government who are now in London arranging the details of the evacuation of the island.

Explains Religious Hostility. Sir Dawson Bates, the home secretary of the Ulster government, today explained the religious hostility in order in the city of Belfast. Both the military and the police, he explained, are still under the control of the imperial government, and

Continued on Page Two.

PREMIER HEADS NEW POLITICAL PARTY IN BRITAIN

"National Liberals" to Be Formed by Lloyd George and Churchill.

LONDON, Jan. 19.—The definite session of Lloyd George and the old Liberal party and the formation of a new party to be styled the "National Liberals" is the somewhat startling disclosure in publication of the agenda for the coalition-liberal conference scheduled for Friday and Saturday. Lloyd George is to be president of the new organization and Winston Churchill vice president.

The decision, which is of far-reaching importance in British politics, is announced in the principal resolution to be adopted at the meeting, in which it is declared that: "The conference, believing that Liberal principles are vital both to national, imperial and international affairs, and having been denied the right of developing these political activities within the limits of the existing Liberal organization decides to form a National Liberal Council for the promotion and defense of the principles."

The platform of the new political group includes: Free trade, social reform, disarmament, and unemployment relief. It is designed to attract moderate Liberals, free traders, Conservatives, Laborites, ex-soldiers, but it is also definitely opposed to "advanced Labor" and to socialist schemes for nationalization and abolition of private ownership.

Cabinet Liberals Included. The party includes all the Liberal members of the cabinet, and leaves the Asquith following clinging to the remnants of the old political machine.

Political observers have predicted a new party alignment practically ever since the war.

The unsettled domestic political situation of England, revolving around the question of the dissolution of Parliament and a general election, is approaching a climax in a series of speeches by members of the government which are expected to bring the issues now before the public.

Austen Chamberlain, speaking at Glasgow Thursday, has definitely settled the question of an immediate dissolution of Parliament. Lloyd George would not call for the dissolution of Parliament until the Irish situation had been completely settled, and that he had the unanimous backing of the cabinet in this intention.

"Until the legal establishment of the Irish provisional government has been completed, there can be no dissolution of Parliament," Chamberlain announced.

Asquith Attacks Waste. Herbert H. Asquith, voicing the opposition, was speaking at the same time in London. He attacked the government's wasteful expenditures on the Irish question and condemned the Versailles treaty.

Reports that a split in the coalition is threatened by which Lloyd George's position is rendered insecure met with a vigorous denial by Chamberlain, after a discussion existed among the Liberal and Unionist members of the government. The situation will not be entirely clear, nevertheless, until Lloyd George has made his reply to the Asquith speech next Saturday, when he is expected to make a forceful appeal to the country emphasizing, first the necessity of Irish peace, with legislative action permitting fulfillment of the treaty.

The second point the premier will make will be importance of the economic conference at Genoa, stressing the fact that only through that gathering can world trade and England's commerce be revived.

As far as Lloyd George is concerned, the domestic situation is completely made up in the international crisis, which explains the premier's anxiety for a readjustment of relations with France and his desire to stimulate the interest of America in the Irish question.

The Irish question is not completely settled from England's standpoint was made evident in Chamberlain's speech. "We have taken a grave departure from our Irish policy," he said. "We have entered a new course and we can do nothing to jeopardize the success of our departure. We must bring the ship to harbor."

He took the only through the Irish question along the lines of the treaty is a process which requires time.

NEW U. S. GERMAN CABLE PROPOSED

NEW YORK, Jan. 19.—Clarence H. Mackay, president of the Commercial Cables system, announced today completion of a contract with the German Atlantic Cable Company, a German corporation, by which direct cable communication with Germany will be restored after eight years.

POLINCAR WINS 472 TO 107 VOTE OF CONFIDENCE

First Speech Indicates Use of Briand's Strategy Toward U. S.

SEES VALUE IN OUR FRIENDSHIP Nationalist Attitude for "Perfect Equality" and Full Reparations.

PARIS, Jan. 19.—The French Nationalists, headed by Premier Polincaire, apparently still hope to play the United States to the profit of France.

Nationalist influence is regarded as having led former Premier Briand to enter the Washington conference with the idea that he could drive a wedge to France's diplomatic advantage.

Polincaire defended himself before the French chamber today in interpreted as revealing the new head of the government carrying this same strategy into office with him.

Polincaire welcomed the prospect of a pact between England and France, but specified that it should be on a basis of "perfect equality." And a few moments later he declared, "we must maintain the most friendly relations, especially with the United States, which contributed so much to the common victory."

The aggressive little premier from Lorraine, whose name, Polincaire, literally translated means "square fist," won his vote of confidence from the chamber by 472 against 107—in spite of an incessant battering through the session at the hands of the Socialists and Communists. Polincaire defended himself from the moth-eaten charges of "responsibility for the war," recalling his appeals for all parties to unite for a common victory.

Position Unique in History. For the first time in the history of the republic, a former president of the republic mounted the tribune to expose himself to the attacks of bitter politicians and succeeded in clinching his hold on the power of the state by the relentless logic and passion of his attack.

Polincaire, who, during the reign of Kerensky, was minister of foreign affairs, made this statement during an address before a gathering of government officials and members of Congress at the Lafayette Hotel last night.

The change from the present "terrorist" reign to that of a democracy, patterned after the government of the United States, will not be preceded or accompanied by any annexation or great bloodshed, the speaker asserted, but would come about in an orderly manner, after the people have become tired of the Bolshevik methods.

Reds Drop in Favor. This opposition to the Communist party is increasing daily. Dr. Miliukov said, and the present increase in membership of the non-party ranks and the steady decrease in the strength of the Bolshevik forces, gives authority for the general belief that the present government of Russia has reached "the end of its rope."

Seated about the speaker's platform were: Senator and Mrs. Joseph I. France, of Maryland; Representative and Mrs. W. H. Field, of Wisconsin; William H. Bixler, of Pennsylvania; Mr. and Mrs. Wade Ellis, Albert Halstead, consul general of Montreal; Col. and Mrs. John T. Graves, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Field, Dr. Wallace Radcliffe, Rowland B. Mahany, former Acting Secretary of Labor; Dr. Palmer Potter, Miss Flora Wilson, and Col. John E. Millbourn, who presided.

Greeted by Senators. Earlier in the day Dr. Miliukov attended a luncheon in the Senate restaurant, where he was personally greeted by large delegations of Senators and Representatives from all parts of the country.

Dr. Miliukov was a member of the third and fourth Dumas of Russia, where he defended the rights of the oppressed nationalities—Finland, Poland, Ukraine and the Moslem minorities—the liberal foreign policy, the liberty of conscience and constitutional rights.

"The end of the Bolshevik regime is near at hand," the former Russian cabinet officer said, "as the decision of the party will show. In 1918 and 1919 the Communists, the party through which Bolshevism operates, boasted of a membership of 600,000 persons, while today the figure is less than 300,000."

Tired of Famine. "This loss of strength can be attributed to the fact that the people who, at the start, accepted the party are now beginning to realize that the promises made at that time cannot be fulfilled; that famine is rampant as a result of the food seizures conducted by the government; that the workmen are almost without money, and in many instances are forced into working without compensation; that the government's cruelties have become practically unbearable."

"An example of the workings of the present government is that a visitor, who, prior to the Bolshevik reign, earned 1,000 rubles a month, is now earning 400,000 rubles a month, but this amount which is paid in almost valueless paper money, is only worth \$2 in American money."

"This condition, combined with heavy taxes which are levied and collected by squads of armed soldiers, is causing the people to desert the Communists and to join the non-party ranks."

End Near at Hand. "Hence, it is quite evident that with opposition to the government growing, and with less than 300,000 persons dictating to 138,000,000 others, the struggle cannot go on much longer. It is bound to end, and to end in the near future."

EXIT BY 1924, HOPE OF SHIPPING BOARD President Harding wishes to get the government out of the ship operating business by July, 1924.

This was revealed in a statement by Chairman Lasker, of the United States Shipping Board yesterday, when he said:

"The President's forthcoming message to Congress on government aid to shipping. If Congress should grant that aid, we can liquidate the immense tonnage owned by the board and this liquidation will bring back to the Treasury several times the cost of the aid granted."

"If this happens within two years from July next, we hope and believe we will be out of government operation."

If this is done and world conditions improved, Lasker said, the present appropriation asked for the Shipping Board "will very likely be the last."

Gaelic Triumphs; Welcome Cobb, Vale, Queenstown

NEW YORK, N. Y., Jan. 19.—The Gaelic language has scored its first American victory. "Cobb" (pronounced cov) has been officially adopted as the new name of Queenstown, the port of Ireland, both by the United States lines, which operate shipping boats, vessels, and the International Mercantile Marine, operating ships of the White Star Line. Hereafter, in sailing for foreign ports on a vessel that uses the name of Queenstown, you don't stop at Queenstown, but at Cobb. The Irish Free State has changed the name and what the Irish Free State decrees now counts.

It is not as sweeping a victory as some Irishmen would like to see, but it is a victory for all that. The United States lines have signified their surrender by announcing the sailings of their vessels as follows: To Cobb (Queenstown). The International Mercantile Marine, on the other hand, puts the reverse English, or reverse Gaelic, on the announcement as follows: To Queenstown (Cobb).

By FRANK H. SIMONDS. The Washington conference is rapidly going the way of the Paris conference and for precisely the same reasons.

NATIONS PLEDGED TO EQUALITY WITH UNIFIED RAILWAY SYSTEM LOOKING TO GREATER DEVELOPMENT OF RESOURCES

VERSAILLES AGAIN Simonds Sees Mr. Hughes Caught in Same Trap As Mr. Wilson. BELIEVES PEOPLE WILL KICK TRACES America Bested Everywhere by Britain and Japs, Says Writer.

By FRANK H. SIMONDS. The Washington conference is rapidly going the way of the Paris conference and for precisely the same reasons.

This is the inevitable conclusion one must draw from the events of the last few days, particularly because of the decisive defeat over the latest American proposal to protect China. Three years ago in April I told my readers that so far as America was concerned and that there would be no peace settlement reached.

The conclusions reached then hold good in the present case. Then it was becoming quite apparent that the American people would never accept a peace that was based on the assumption of the Japanese. Today the situation is not different.

Caught in Trap. Within the past week we have consented to amendments in proposed treaties which would bind us not to fortify our own territory, while, no similarly restrictive agreements have been entered into on the same scale by our neighbors. At this moment we are proposing a Chinese arrangement which is tantamount to a complete abandonment of China and seeking to give this desertion the color of a victory for the American principle of the "open door."

Meantime it is becoming plainer daily that the revolt against the American policy of making the conference by the American delegates is spreading in the Senate. Already almost certainly it does all ten of the treaties which are now planned. A month ago it was difficult to count the votes against the proposed treaties. Today the opposition is counted to be more than thirty and it is even asserted on good authority that but one vote is lacking in the Senate to defeat all the conference commitments.

But One Achievement. There is, so far, but a single definite achievement of the conference, and that is the exclusion of the non-fortifying provisions of all of the chief island possessions of Japan and Britain, while retaining the means to make a fair proposal for mutual limitation of armaments in capital ships we have been forced, in order to purchase British and Japanese arms, to give up our own territory. Neither Japan nor Britain will consent to balance sacrifices. Thus the 5-5-3 ratio does not actually represent the ratio of the forces of the three navies, but it is a ratio which is inferior to Britain and Japan in the Far East.

Capital Ships Cut Only. As a consequence of the Anglo-French row over the submarine, there will be no limitation of armaments outside of capital ships. This means that there will still be intense competition in their naval arms universally recognized as the weapons of the future, namely, airships and submarines. Actual limitation is thus restricted to the obsolescent capital ships.

Status Quo in East. There has been no agreement upon any real adjustment in the Far East and with respect of China. The board of reference described in Mr. Hughes' latest "bombshell" proves this to have been no more than a bluff. It is already known that China will not accept anything like what is now proposed as a Far Eastern solution.

All Chinese experts and friends of China agree that the latest proposal amounts to no more than a smokescreen covering failure and asserts that the board of reference holds out not the smallest prospect of usefulness. Not only China, but Holland will refuse to sign the Far Eastern treaty, which is called the Nine-Power treaty and is designed to deal with the Far Eastern question. The elimination of Article IV spells the complete frustration of all hope offered by this latest proposal.

China Not to Sign. Today I have the best authority for the statement that the Chinese representatives, after certain hesitations, are united in the resolve not to sign anything now proposed and to follow the example of the Chinese delegates at Paris, who refused to sign the treaty of Versailles. But if the Chinese refuse to sign, the Four-Power treaty takes on a totally different character. In fact what we have done is to sign the treaty of Versailles.

Continued on Page Five.

Japs Surrender Shanghai Cable And Two Radios

Territorial Negotiations Postponed Until Tomorrow at Delegates' Meet.

The Chinese and Japanese direct negotiations regarding Shanghai yesterday resulted in the Japanese surrendering their rights to the Tsingtao-Chiefen and the Tsingtao-Shanghai cables to the Chinese government. The Japanese also relinquished to the Chinese two wireless stations in the Shanghai district, possession not to be given immediately after the withdrawal of the Japanese troops from Shanghai.

The Japanese also relinquished to the Chinese two wireless stations in the Shanghai district, possession not to be given immediately after the withdrawal of the Japanese troops from Shanghai.

The Japanese also relinquished to the Chinese two wireless stations in the Shanghai district, possession not to be given immediately after the withdrawal of the Japanese troops from Shanghai.

The Japanese also relinquished to the Chinese two wireless stations in the Shanghai district, possession not to be given immediately after the withdrawal of the Japanese troops from Shanghai.

The Japanese also relinquished to the Chinese two wireless stations in the Shanghai district, possession not to be given immediately after the withdrawal of the Japanese troops from Shanghai.

The Japanese also relinquished to the Chinese two wireless stations in the Shanghai district, possession not to be given immediately after the withdrawal of the Japanese troops from Shanghai.

The Japanese also relinquished to the Chinese two wireless stations in the Shanghai district, possession not to be given immediately after the withdrawal of the Japanese troops from Shanghai.

The Japanese also relinquished to the Chinese two wireless stations in the Shanghai district, possession not to be given immediately after the withdrawal of the Japanese troops from Shanghai.

The Japanese also relinquished to the Chinese two wireless stations in the Shanghai district, possession not to be given immediately after the withdrawal of the Japanese troops from Shanghai.

The Japanese also relinquished to the Chinese two wireless stations in the Shanghai district, possession not to be given immediately after the withdrawal of the Japanese troops from Shanghai.

The Japanese also relinquished to the Chinese two wireless stations in the Shanghai district, possession not to be given immediately after the withdrawal of the Japanese troops from Shanghai.

The Japanese also relinquished to the Chinese two wireless stations in the Shanghai district, possession not to be given immediately after the withdrawal of the Japanese troops from Shanghai.

The Japanese also relinquished to the Chinese two wireless stations in the Shanghai district, possession not to be given immediately after the withdrawal of the Japanese troops from Shanghai.

The Japanese also relinquished to the Chinese two wireless stations in the Shanghai district, possession not to be given immediately after the withdrawal of the Japanese troops from Shanghai.

TO BARE TREATIES

Third Step Maintaining Celestial Integrity Will Be Taken Today.

PUBLICITY PLAN FAVORED BY KOO

Minister Says China Herself Should Know of Many Agreements.

The second step to maintain China's sovereign integrity was taken yesterday. The committee on Pacific and Far Eastern affairs unanimously adopted resolutions which provide for China refusing preference in railway matters to any nation, or nationals, and pledging all of the nations here represented to do all possible toward creating a unified system of Chinese railways. This is designed to provide the proper main arteries over which China's great wealth of natural resources will be developed.

Third step will be consummated today. It is a very important one. It is designed to have recorded for the benefit of all of the powers represented here every commitment that is known, whether through a treaty or understanding, affecting China in any way. This would bring into the open all of the secret treaties, including those evolved during the great war. Some of these treaties only have been hinted at.

It will be provided that all of the treaties, understandings and agreements which will be filed with the secretary general of the conference. They are intended to cover every possible understanding, public or private, that can survive in the light of day.

In this connection Minister Koo, spokesman for the Chinese delegation, admitted that it was known to himself and his colleagues that the existing commitments concerning China were very numerous. He said that the fact he believed that it was necessary that not only the powers here represented but China herself should know what they were and who held them.

Three Suggestions Offered. He had three suggestions to make, he said. They were:

That all of the powers which had any claims or interests in China should make them known.

That, after the validity of such claims had been established steps should be taken to harmonize them one with another, and to adjust them to the resolutions guaranteeing the open door.

Discussing the first suggestion, the Chinese spokesman said: "The international agreements, sound and useful ones. There are particularly urgent grounds for observing in regard to China. Many of the commitments which have entered into under very uncertain circumstances are based upon letters or verbal statements of some times a single Chinese official, many times not even approved by the central government."

"So long as any international engagement was kept secret, it was bound to give rise either to speculation or to misunderstanding. It was known concerning it, the situation would not be less unsatisfactory because other powers might unwittingly adopt policies which ran counter to the Chinese position. If it were merely suspected that a commitment existed, the other powers are likely to adopt policies which run counter to the Chinese position. It is therefore of the utmost importance that the Chinese should know what they are and who held them."

Nothing to Keep Secret. "China is ready to make public every known international commitment which it has entered into. It is concerned the only engagement China has entered into which is not completely known about is the exact nature of the treaty of 1896 with Russia, known as the Li-Lobanoff treaty. If any of the members of the committee desire to know the full contents of the terms the delegation will submit them."

Secretary Hughes stated that he believed a full disclosure of everything was very advisable.

He thought it would be to the advantage of the conference that whatever was lacking in the way of information in respect to commitments made or suspected to be made, should be supplied. This, in itself, he thought, would largely, if not entirely, take care of the nebulous claims to which Mr. Koo had referred. In other words, a valid claim could be stated and its basis could be set forth; if it were too nebulous to be listed, and at the same time it was understood that all engagements were listed, he doubted if, in the future, there would be any basis for pressing it. Further, the question of validity could be referred to something that could be defined, and in respect to which an argument as to validity or invalidity could be conducted. A mere nebulous assertion of some right, without any basis

Continued on Page Five.

Plane Hurts Two In Fall Into River

Naval Officer and Civilian Pilot Drop 400 Feet and Escape Death.

A naval officer and a civilian pilot narrowly escaped death near the United States Naval Air Station yesterday when the hydroplane which they were testing fell 400 feet into the Potomac River.

The injured men are: Lieut. Comdr. M. Chase, of the Naval Air Station, bruises and lacerations of the face and body.

John Miller, pilot for Curtis Airplane Company, abrasions of the body and lacerations of the hands and face.

The craft became uncontrollable after a short flight from the naval station, and the lives of the occupants were saved only by the timely action of Pilot Miller, who headed it toward the river.

The accident occurred, according to officials, when the connecting rod in one of the motors broke. The plane is a new type of a torpedo craft and was received at the air station last Friday. After being thoroughly overhauled, it was given its first official test yesterday morning. According to officials, it will be several weeks before the plane can be repaired. A complete new motor must be obtained.

Tenant Petitions For Higher Rent

Woman Glad to Pay \$10 More For the Sake of Improvements.

Mrs. Anna Butler is the first Washington tenant to ask the District Rent Commission to increase the rental on an apartment. In her complaint she states that she can find no other apartment that suits her as well and will be glad to pay an increase of \$10 monthly.